

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 3, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 4

Introduced by Assembly Member Dodd
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Wood)
(Principal coauthors: Senators McGuire and Wolk)
(~~Coauthor:~~Coauthors: Assembly Member Members Bonilla and
***Levine*)**

January 8, 2015

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 4—Relative to Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 4, as amended, Dodd. Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

This measure would urge the President of the United States and the Secretary of the United States Department of Interior to designate the area known as the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Berryessa Snow Mountain region stretches
- 2 nearly 100 miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks
- 3 of Snow Mountain; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The Berryessa Snow Mountain region encompasses
- 5 more than 350,000 acres across the Counties of Napa, Mendocino,
- 6 Lake, Solano, and Yolo and is rich in wildlife, including bald and
- 7 golden eagles, black bears, mountain lions, tule elk, river otters,
- 8 and the rare Pacific fisher; and

1 WHEREAS, Berryessa Snow Mountain is a biodiversity hotspot
2 and includes numerous trails, open spaces, lakes, and rivers that
3 help create a fishing, camping, boating, birding, horseback-riding,
4 bicycling, and off-highway vehicle paradise; and

5 WHEREAS, Permanently protecting the Berryessa Snow
6 Mountain region will ensure continued recreational opportunities
7 while safeguarding the region's beauty, wildlife, rare plants,
8 *agriculture*, and water, which includes important sources of
9 drinking water and irrigation for nearby communities; and

10 WHEREAS, The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is within
11 easy driving distance for millions of citizens residing and visiting
12 the bay area and the Sacramento metropolitan area; and

13 WHEREAS, Protected public lands are major contributors to
14 our nation's \$646 billion outdoor recreation economy; and

15 WHEREAS, More than one-half of California residents
16 participate in outdoor recreation each year, supporting more than
17 700,000 jobs, generating more than \$6 billion in state economic
18 activity; and

19 WHEREAS, Studies have shown that local economies
20 surrounding permanently protected areas such as national
21 monuments expand after establishing a monument, increasing
22 per-capita personal incomes; and

23 WHEREAS, More than 100 businesses in areas surrounding the
24 Berryessa Snow Mountain region support a national monument
25 designation, as do nationally recognized recreation and sportsmen's
26 groups such as the International Bicycling Association, Back
27 Country Horsemen, and the Equine Land Conservation Resource;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, President Obama recently designated 346,000 acres
30 of public land in southern California as the San Gabriel National
31 Monument, and expanded the California Coastal National
32 Monument to include the Point Arena Stornetta Public Lands;
33 now, therefore, be it

34 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
35 *California, jointly*, That the Legislature of California urge President
36 Obama and the Secretary of the United States Department of
37 Interior, Sally Jewell, to protect and preserve the unique and
38 precious qualities of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region for
39 current and future generations by creating a Berryessa Snow
40 Mountain National Monument; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That in designating the Berryessa Snow Mountain
2 region as a National Monument, the Secretary consult an area
3 advisory council consisting of, but not limited to, one representative
4 from each of the Napa, Lake, Yolo, Mendocino, and Solano County
5 Boards of Supervisors, a representative of the California Resources
6 Agency, and a representative of Native American Tribes; and be
7 it further

8 *Resolved*, That in designating the Berryessa Snow Mountain
9 region as a National Monument, the Secretary take into
10 consideration existing land uses, including grazing, on the federal
11 lands within the region; and be it further

12 *Resolved*, That the designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain
13 National Monument does not require nonfederal property owners
14 to allow public access to private property, nor does *it* modify any
15 provision of federal, state, or local law with respect to use of
16 nonfederal land; and be it further

17 *Resolved*, That any acquisition of nonfederal land within the
18 National Monument occur only through exchange, ~~donation~~
19 *donation*, or purchase from a willing seller; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
21 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
22 States and to the Secretary of the United States Department of
23 Interior.